



CITY OF DETROIT
LAW DEPARTMENT

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September 6, 2019

Katlyn Alapati
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 78623
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request No. A19-06554, Dated August 5, 2019,
Concerning City of Detroit Records Pertaining to Specified Crime Scenes**

Dear Ms. Alapati:

This letter serves as the City of Detroit's response to the above-referenced matter. Your request was received at the City of Detroit Law Department FOIA Section on August 6, 2019. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Your FOIA request as initially submitted seeks the following information:

The street addresses where the following occurred:

- The body of an unnamed victim was discovered on or around June 4, 2019 on the 3000 block of Mack.
- The body of Nancy Harrison was discovered on or around March 19, 2019 on the 20000 block of Coventry.
- The body of Travesene Ellis was discovered on or around May 24 on the 13000 block of Linnhurst.

We note that in your email of August 27, 2019, you recharacterized your FOIA request as seeking the following information:

The names of the owners of the properties where the following incidents occurred:

- The body of an unnamed victim was discovered on or around June 4, 2019 on the 3000 block of Mack.
- The body of Nancy Harrison was discovered on or around March 19, 2019 on the 20000 block of Coventry.
- The body of Travesene Ellis was discovered on or around May 24 on the 13000 block of Linnhurst.

Your request was submitted to the Detroit Police Department ("DPD") to conduct a search for the requested records. Based on information provided by DPD personnel, it is our



understanding that the investigations into the three matters covered by your original request and your request as recharacterized remain open, and that release of information pertaining to the investigations at this time would interfere with law enforcement proceedings and deprive a person of the right to a fair trial. Accordingly, your request is denied under MCL 15.243(1)(b)(i) and (ii).

You can find the summary of the City of Detroit Freedom of Information Act procedures and guidelines at <https://detroitmi.gov/document/foia-procedures-and-guidelines> and <https://detroitmi.gov/how-do-i/request-document/foia-freedom-information-act-request>.

Please note that pursuant to Section 10 and 10a of the Act, MCL 15.240 and 15.240a, a person receiving a written denial of a request or receiving a letter to submit the labor costs may do one of the following:

- 1) Submit a written appeal to the head of the public body denying the request. Such appeal, if submitted, should specifically state the word "appeal" and identify the reason or reasons for reversal of the disclosure denial. MCL 15.240(1)(a) and MCL 15.240a(1)(a); or
- 2) Commence an action in the circuit court to compel the disclosure of the public records within 180 days after the public body's denial of the request, MCL 15.240(1)(b), or 45 days after the public body's request for labor costs, MCL 15.240a(1)(b). If a court finds that the information withheld by a public body is not exempt from disclosure, or that the labor costs requested by the public body exceeds the amount permitted, the requesting party may receive the requested record and, at the discretion of the court, reasonable attorney fees and/or costs. MCL 15.240(6) and (7), and MCL 15.240a(6) and (7).

Very truly yours,

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